

Message Text

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64

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /068 W

----- 115115

R 151745Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4197

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 26726

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, FR

SUBJECT: RESETTLEMENT IN FRANCE OF FORMER LAO

AMBASSADOR TO U.S. KHAMPHAN PANYA

1. FORMER LAO AMBASSADOR TO U.S. KHAMPHAN PANYA CALLED THE EMBASSY AND AT SUBSEQUENT CONTACT ON 10 OCTOBER INFORMED US THAT HE HAD LEFT LAOS ILLEGALLY ON 2 OCTOBER AND PLANNED TO RESETTLE IN PARIS WITH HIS WIFE AND TWO CHILDREN.

2. KHAMPHAN STATED THAT FOLLOWING HIS RECALL FROM WASHINGTON IN LATE AUGUST HE LEFT HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN IN PARIS AND PROCEEDED TO VIENTIANE ON 22 SEPTEMBER. ALTHOUGH THE LAO FOREIGN MINISTRY HAD ADVISED HIM IN THE RECALL MESSAGE THAT HIS RETURN WAS BROUGHT ON BECAUSE HE WAS THREE YEARS OVER THE NORMAL RETIREMENT AGE OF 55 YEARS, HE WAS TOLD ON ARRIVAL IN VIENTIANE THAT HE WOULD BE REASSIGNED TO THE MINISTRY FOLLOWING A RE-EDUCATION SEMINAR AT SAM NEUA. SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATIONS WITH KING KAVANG VATTHANA, PRIME MINISTER SOUVANNA PHOUMA, AND FAMILY AND FRIENDS MADE IT OBVIOUS TO HIM THAT HIS BEST COURSE OF ACTION WAS TO LEAVE
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LAOS. HE THEREFORE SUBMITTED A REQUEST TO BE RETIRED

FROM THE GOVERNMENT EFFECTIVE 1 OCTOBER. FEARING THAT
HIS REQUEST WOULD NOT BE GRANTED, HE THEN ESCAPED
FROM LAOS 2 OCTOBER 1975 BY JOINING A GROUP OF PEASANTS
CROSSING THE BORDER INTO THAILAND TO SELL FARM PRODUCE.

3. KHAMPHAN PANYA ENTERED FRANCE ON HIS LAO DIPLOMATIC
PASSPORT, VALID UNTIL 1977. HE WILL SHORTLY ASK THE
GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE FOR A CARTE DE SEJOUR OR, IF
NECESSARY, STATUS AS A REFUGEE. PANYA HAS BEGUN LOOKING
FOR A JOB IN FRANCE.
RUSH

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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TAGS: PINT, FR, (KHAMPHAN PANYA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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